



City of Delta
COUNCIL REPORT
Regular Meeting

To: **Council**

File No.: **6120-02**

From: **Parks, Recreation & Culture
Department**

Date: **July 15, 2025**

Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan Update

The following report has been reviewed and endorsed by the City Manager's Office.

▪ **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- A. THAT the Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan ("PRCMP") Update be received for information.
- B. THAT staff be directed to proceed with the first phase of community engagement as outlined below.

▪ **PURPOSE:**

To provide an update on the work plan and selected project team for the PRCMP, and to outline the proposed public engagement plan.

▪ **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Delta's last comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan was completed in March 1989, and though the plan has served the City well in guiding the operation and development of Parks and Recreation over this time, the City has undergone significant growth and development, and a new PRCMP is required to serve the community now and into the future.

The creation of a new PRCMP was supported by Council in the 2025 Financial Plan. In addition, a renewed PRCMP is noted as a policy directive in the City's 2024 update of the Official Community Plan.

To begin the process, staff developed a comprehensive scope of work for the creation of a PRCMP that will ensure residents have access to a variety of vibrant, inclusive, and accessible recreational, cultural, and educational opportunities as the community grows and evolves over the next 25 years.

The PRCMP will be a long-term guiding document that will shape how the City grows and designs its programs, services, amenities, and facilities over the next 25 years. It will reflect the needs of people of all ages and backgrounds, helping to shape a city where everyone can find ways to live healthy and connected lives. The PRCMP will

articulate a clear vision, goals, and strategic priorities for the Parks, Recreation & Culture Department.

▪ **DISCUSSION:**

Project Team

Following a competitive bid process, the City retained a consulting team (“Team”) led by RC Strategies, with subject matter expertise provided by HCMA Architecture + Design (indoor facilities), Nordicity (cultural planning), and Binnie (outdoor infrastructure). Each member of the Team has contributed to numerous parks, recreation, and culture plans and strategies, bringing award winning expertise to the project.

Plan Structure

The completed PRCMP will comprise a concise executive summary document, a fulsome graphical plan, and an actionable implementation plan. Key deliverables to be included in the plan are:

- Current State Assessment - a look at what the City currently offers and how services are being used.
- Key Challenges and Opportunities - an overview of the main issues and possibilities to help shape planning.
- Community Engagement Summary - a summary of what the City heard from the community.
- Vision and Priorities - a direction for where the City is heading and what the City aims to achieve.
- Strategic Recommendations - prioritized actions to improve programs, spaces, and services across the City.
- Cost and Timelines - high-level costing and scheduling estimates to support long-term planning and investment decisions.

Upon the completion of the PRCMP, the consultant will continue with a focused study of a North Delta Recreation Facility, founded in the analysis, needs, goals, and priorities identified through the creation of the PRCMP.

Community Engagement Plan

Staff are working with the consulting team to prepare a community engagement program that will include two phases of engagement to ensure perspectives of residents’ help inform the final PRCMP. The first phase of engagement will seek the community’s input on the needs and priorities and will begin this fall. The second phase will confirm the direction of the draft plan and is estimated to occur early in 2026.

The engagement approach will prioritize targeted meetings with community and user groups, equity deserving groups and City staff, while also offering opportunities for broader public input including surveys and events. Some of the groups that will be reached through the first phase of the engagement program include:

- User groups (field, court and sport groups, aquatic and gymnasium users, arena and dry floor groups, cultural groups, provincial sport organizations, environmental groups)
- Community groups (service clubs and organizations serving equity deserving populations)
- General (Delta residents)
- First Nations (Tsawwassen First Nation and Musqueam Indian Band)
- Public institutions (Delta School District #37, Fraser Health Authority, Fraser Valley Library, Metro Vancouver)
- Business community (Tourism Delta, Delta Chamber of Commerce, and BIAs in Tsawwassen, North Delta, and Ladner)
- City of Delta Committees (Mobility and Accessibility Committee, Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism Committee)

Planned activities include:

- Community survey
- Pop-ups at major community events (e.g., Barnside Harvest Festival, Lights, Ladders and Loaders, DIYAfest)
- Online feedback form for residents
- Meetings with community partners and interested groups
- Focus groups related to accessibility and inclusivity
- Meetings with representatives of First Nations
- Forming a team of volunteers to connect with residents

The engagement program will be coordinated with the John Oliver Park Master Plan. Once timing and details of the engagement program are confirmed, staff will notify the community about opportunities to get involved.

Governance

The project will be guided by a PRCMP Advisory Committee, composed of key staff from across the Parks, Recreation & Culture department, and representatives from key departments including Facilities and Major Projects, Communications and Engagement, Finance, Planning, and Engineering. In addition, a working group has been convened to provide timely feedback and guidance to the Team.

Schedule

The Team has begun the data collection and information gathering phase in earnest to help inform the first phase of engagement commencing in September 2025. A draft plan will be developed in the following months, with the second phase of engagement in late winter 2026 to facilitate completion of the plan in spring 2026.

Implications:

Financial Implications – Development of the plan is estimated to cost \$300,000, and is funded in the 2025 Financial Plan.

▪ **CONCLUSION:**

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan represents an important step forward in ensuring the City of Delta continues to meet the evolving needs of its growing and diverse community. With an experienced team, a clear structure, and a strong engagement plan, the City is well-prepared to develop a focused, actionable strategy that will guide investments and decisions for years to come.



Josh Turner
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DC

This report has been prepared in consultation with the following listed department.

Concurring Department		
Department	Name	Signature
Communications & Engagement	Deanie Wong	JK for DW